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Urban District Council of Rishton

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
INCLUDING DETAILS OF WORK
DONE BY THE
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE DISTRICT OF RISHTON FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1960



Medical Officer of Health—
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19, St. James Street,
ACCRINGTON.
Telephone: Accrington 34223.

Public Health Inspector—
S. PILKINGTON,
A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Council Offices, Brook Street,
RISHTON, Near Blackburn.
Telephone: Gt. Harwood 2264/5.



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Council Offices,
RISHTON.

July, 1961.

To the Chairman and Members

OF THE

Urban District Council of Rishton

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the Health administration of Rishton for the year ended 31st December, 1960.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,878.4
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£90,443
Estimated Product of 1d. Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£354
Population, 1951 Census	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,794
Estimated 1959 Mid-year Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,470
Estimated 1960 Mid-year Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,460

Rishton is a compact Urban area where chief industries are cotton, felt and carpet weaving, paper making, paint and varnish manufacture, paper string manufacture, slipper and shoe manufacture and plastic products.

VITAL STATISTICS

Death Rate (crude)	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.1
Death Rate (adjusted)	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.2
Death Rate (England and Wales)	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.5
Live Birth Rate (crude)	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.0
Live Birth Rate (adjusted)	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.6
Live Birth Rate (England and Wales)	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.1
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.9
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.1
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.1
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	...	...	...	27.8

There were 71 live and 1 still-birth registered during 1960, and 77 deaths. Both the birth rate and the death rate have risen, the death rate from 12.2 to 14.2, and the birth rate from 14.3 to 14.6. The population has again decreased, although the rate of decrease is slowing, as can be seen from the figures on the following pages.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

This year has again seen a low incidence of reported cases of notifiable infectious diseases.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Local Health and Welfare Services under the National Health and Assistance Acts are administered in Rishton by the Lancashire County Council Number 5 Health Division.

Miss E. Singleton is the Health Visitor/School Nurse for the Rishton District, and the following are the services administered at the Child Welfare and School Clinic, 108, High Street, Rishton. Telephone: Great Harwood 3177.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic | 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month (morning). |
| 2. Child Welfare Clinic | Each Tuesday afternoon. |
| 3. Minor Ailment Clinic | Each Monday and Friday morning. |
| 4. Immunisation Clinic | As and when arranged. |
| 5. Orthopaedic Clinic | 4th Wednesday each month (by appointment). |
| 6. Ophthalmic Clinic | 1st and 3rd Thursday (afternoon) (by appointment). |
| 7. Dental Clinic | Each Monday and Wednesday (Gas Session—Wednesday, a.m.). |
| 8. Speech Therapy | By appointment. |
| 9. Physiotherapy | Each Wednesday (all day). |

Wherever possible appointments should be made before clinics (under headings 4 to 9) are attended, although the Dental Officer will attend to cases of toothache without appointment.

The County Midwife for Rishton is Mrs. Phillipson, 4, Devonshire Drive, CLAYTON-LE-MOORS. Telephone: Accrington 31250.

The County District Nurse for the District is Mrs. Brandrick, The Bungalow, Wharf Street, RISHTON. Telephone: Great Harwood 2540.

To obtain the Ambulance Service, ring Accrington 34834.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

		Total		Males		Females
Live Births—Legitimate	... ..	69	...	33	...	36
Live Births—Illegitimate	... ..	2	...	—	...	2
TOTALS		71	...	33	...	38
Stillbirths	... ..	1	..	—	...	1
Deaths	... ..	77	...	33	...	44

POPULATION FIGURES OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS

	Registrar General's Estimated Figure		Births		Deaths		Births & Deaths Differential
1960	5,460	...	71	...	77	...	—6
1959	5,470	...	70	...	66	...	+4
1958	5,500	...	85	...	87	...	—2
1957	5,540	...	58	...	61	...	—3
1956	5,580	...	77	...	80	...	—3
1955	5,630	...	52	...	94	...	—42
1954	5,630	...	53	...	81	...	—28
1953	5,660	...	67	...	71	...	—4
1952	5,741	...	59	...	86	...	—27
1951 (Census)	5,794	...	70	...	91	...	—21
1950	5,926	...	81	...	93	...	—12

SUMMARY CAUSES OF DEATH

		Males		Females		Total
Malignant Neoplasms (Bronchus)	... ..	1	...	2	...	3
Malignant Neoplasm (Stomach)	... ..	3	...	—	...	3
Malignant Neoplasm (Breast)	... ..	—	...	2	...	2
Malignant Neoplasm (Uterus)	... ..	—	...	1	...	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	... ..	2	...	3	...	5
Leukaemia	... ..	1	...	—	...	1
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	...	6	...	5	...	11
Coronary Disease Angina	... ..	9	...	5	...	14
Other Heart Diseases	... ..	1	...	4	...	5
Other Circulatory Diseases	... ..	1	...	2	...	3
Influenza	... ..	—	...	1	...	1
Pneumonia	... ..	—	...	1	...	1
Bronchitis	... ..	4	...	2	...	6
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	... ..	3	...	10	...	13
Motor Vehicle Accidents	... ..	—	...	1	...	1
All other Accidents	... ..	—	...	3	...	3
Suicide	... ..	—	...	1	...	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	... ..	1	...	—	...	1
Ulcer of Stomach	... ..	1	...	—	...	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	... ..	—	...	1	...	1
TOTALS		33	...	44	...	77

PUBLIC HEALTH TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1930

Number of cases on Tuberculosis Register at the 31st December, 1960, compared with figures for 1959:

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1960 ...	14	8	22	—	1	1	14	9	23
1959 ...	17	10	27	—	1	1	17	11	28
Cases notified for first time during year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Removed from District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Moved into District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diagnosis not confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Died	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

Notifiable Diseases	Total Cases at all ages	Age Periods—years									25 and over	age unknown
		0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15			
Measles	9	—	2	2	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever...	6	—	1	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
<hr/>												
Total cases at all ages	16	—	3	2	4	1	6	—	—	—	—	

Acute Poliomyelitis, both paralytic and the non-paralytic type, and Diphtheria, were absent from the notifications. This is a pleasant state of affairs, one which we hope will continue, assisted by the co-operation of parents taking advantage of the inoculations offered for their children.

Notifiable Diseases	Total cases at all ages	Age Periodc—years					
		0	5	15	45	65 and over	age un- known
Acute Pneumonia (Prim. and Inf.)	5	—	—	3	1	1	—
Erysipelas... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Tuberculosis Resp....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS ...	7	—	—	3	2	2	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Disease	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Scarlet Fever	2	—	7	3	6
Measles	33	10	94	2	9
Whooping Cough	3	9	1	—	1
Pneumonia	2	5	10	7	5
Food Poisoning	3	2	1	—	—
Erysipelas	1	1	2	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	22	—
TOTALS ...	44	27	115	35	22

In making my report, I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their support and encouragement throughout the year, and other officials and staff for their friendly help.

Yours faithfully,

R. C. WEBSTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,

Brook Street,

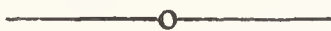
RISHTON,

Near Blackburn.

Council Offices,
Brook Street,
RISHTON,
Near Blackburn.

Report of the Public Health Inspector

For the Year ended 31st December, 1960



I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1960.

This year has been a record year for the quantities of salvage collected, a tribute to the all-out effort of the men on the job.

In the field of smoke abatement a policy has been formulated, the only blot being the persistent pollution by the Power Station. We are told that the station will soon be operating on a greatly reduced load; nevertheless if the inversion coincides with maximum output the pollution in the township will be the same.

Standard Grants have certainly been taken advantage of by the owner-occupiers. Unfortunately the landlords have not been as quick to seize their opportunity.

I am grateful to the officials and staff for the help I have received, and to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their encouragement and consideration.

Yours faithfully,

S. PILKINGTON,

Public Health Inspector.

ENVIRONMENT HYGIENE

Water Supply

Frequent samples of the public supply are taken by the Board, and the results are forwarded for our information; the results were all satisfactory. The main fault is low pressure at individual homes at peak periods due to joint supplies.

Public Cleansing Service

The weekly cleansing service has been maintained even in face of the growing number of new houses.

The area has again been covered by spraying against weeds with very satisfactory results. I am sure that improvement could be made in this service if the work could be undertaken in a continuous manner at the start of the growing period.

The Tip has caused its usual headaches by being the centre of attraction for tip foragers, who damage the buildings and cause fires; also for youths who use the area for "target practice," creating areas of broken glass on the roadways, causing trouble for vehicles.

SALVAGE

Waste Paper				Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
January	...	...	...	8	17	1	57	12	2
February	...	...	...	4	5	2	27	15	9
March	...	...	...	12	10	0	81	5	1
April	...	...	...	7	18	1	51	8	8
May	...	...	...	8	11	0	55	11	6
June	...	...	...	8	19	1	58	5	2
July	...	...	...	3	17	0	25	0	6
August	...	...	...	13	4	3	86	0	11
September	...	...	...	5	5	2	34	5	9
October	...	...	...	9	13	3	63	19	5
November	...	...	...	11	16	1	70	5	9
December	...	...	...	8	16	0	57	4	0
TOTALS				103	14	2	£668	13	10

Scrap Metal		Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Light Iron	...	9	16	0	0	33	5	9
Heavy Iron	...	5	18	2	0	35	11	0
Rags	...	0	14	0	0	8	8	0
Aluminium	...	0	5	3	20	25	5	6
TOTAL						£102	10	3

Tipping Trade Receipts: £34 12s. 0d.

Again this has been a year of increased salvage collection. A pleasing feature of the recent years has been the steady market which has had its reflection in improved collections.

FOOD

Unsound Food

Ham	111 lbs.
Beef	32 lbs.
Meat (Tinned)	3 lbs.
Vegetables (Tinned)	7½ lbs.
Tomatoes (Tinned)	3 lbs.
Fruit (Tinned)	10 lbs.
Fish (Tinned)	1 lb.

There are 97 premises handling food for human consumption in the area. 303 visits have been paid to these premises throughout the year. Included in the total are 19 premises which are registered in relation to ice-cream sale or cooked meat manufacture: a further 72 visits have been made to these premises. The food traders in general have been very co-operative and have maintained a good standard.

BRUCELLOSIS

Several farms have been found to have cattle discharging brucella organisms into the milk which is retailed raw. As the sale of these animals is not controlled, one infected beast can be sold to be replaced by another infected beast. The immediate answer to the problem would appear to be heat treatment of all milk, or a national campaign for the abolition of this organism.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

During the year a policy of smoke contral zones has been established and work commenced on gathering information for the first of these zones. Unfortunately the Power Station still continues to pollute the atmosphere on the fairly frequent occasions that the weather conditions are such that the inversion is created.

Seventeen observations have been made on industrial chimneys and warnings issued in three instances. These warnings have resulted in improved conditions. The main cause of trouble has been the use of boilers for steam raising of a nature for which they were not designed.

RODENT CONTROL

The annual trend of reducing infestations has continued. Prompt attention is given by the rodent operator to all infestations, and the regular treatment of areas such as sewers and tip have been carried out, stopping spread of infestation from these points.

HOUSING

Houses inspected for housing defects	87
Number of inspections made for the purpose	304
Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
Number of dwelling houses found not in all respects fit for human habitation	64
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after informal action	61
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notice was served	1
Number made fit by Local Authority after service of formal notice	1
Certificates of Unfitness applied for	5
Certificates of Unfitness granted	4
Certificates of Revocation applied for	Nil
Certificates of Revocation granted	Nil

STANDARD GRANTS

Applications submitted to Local Authority	56
Approved by Local Authority	56
Work completed	52

Almost 100 per cent. of the applications have come from owner/occupied houses. Tenanted property is not being improved by use of the grant in this area.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

Part I of the Act

Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

	Number on Register		Inspections		Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted	
1. Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	39	...	70	...	—	...	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworker's premises)	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
TOTALS ...	39	...	70	...	—	...	—

